



Arlington Recycling Committee
Minutes of 10/6/16

PRESENT

Members: Co-Chair Juli Brazile, Co-Chair Gordon Jamieson, Ellen Callaway, Larry Slotnick, Paul Goldberg, Recycling Coordinator, Charlotte Milan
Residents: Pete Howard

MINUTES of 9/8/16 approved with minor corrections.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Charlotte will leave our Town Day flyers in the DPW office. Juli will send Charlotte the pdf to see if the flyer can be posted on the ARC web page. On her Report (Ref 6), Gordon suggested she show 15 months of monthly totals so we can see what happened last year at the same time to compare. The report now indicates how much money we have spent to provide free compost bins to pilot program participants. Charlotte is planning a volunteer thank you event in November since some volunteers at the Recycling Center haven't met all us or each other. She hopes to show some of the new videos she's been working on. Since the December Recycling Center will include leaf bag drop off, Larry, Juli and Jeremy Marin will be asked to help plan logistics since last year was very hard to manage. She is hoping to set up a drop off for compost at DPW, but there are details to be worked out. Rachael Olivieri, a Brackett parent, has been hired as the new, part-time school sustainability coordinator.

MEETING WITH MIKE RADEMACHER: DPW Director Rademacher has agreed to meet with us at our November meeting. Juli will re-confirm the time and date with him. We discussed our objectives and talking points around our recommendation to reduce the trash limit to two barrels and reviewed draft handouts. On the outline (Ref 1), two people raised concerns about including Recycling Center as an ARC project, but the group agreed that ARC provides a critical number of volunteers and our participation is a commitment by committee members. Part II of the outline involves several handouts. Gordon reviewed two pie charts (Ref 2). The first shows the tonnage that goes to the incinerator and the second is his estimate, based on DEP data, showing how much of the incinerated trash is actually recyclables, kitchen waste, etc. He estimates that only 9% of "trash" has to be in the trashcan. That represents a lot of wasted money and violations of state waste ban regulations. Our argument is that we should drop to two barrels before larger override votes that we know are coming. Paul asked about the timeline (Ref 3) and if we knew what triggered each drop in trash totals. Gordon explained: FY2004-FY2006 we drew attention to recycling and distributed blue bins; FY2007-FY2010 Al Gore raised awareness of environmental issues; FY2011-FY2012 town meeting adopted state waste ban; FY2013-FY2017 JRM contract included both weekly recycling and enforcement of mandatory recycling in the curbside program. Gordon will revise the timeline to reflect that information. Gordon's last chart (Ref 4) shows 2014 data from the Vision 2020 Survey. The second scenario demonstrates how few households would be impacted by a limit of two barrels. The data shows that most households of 4 or fewer put out 1 or 2 barrels now. The group most likely to be affected is households of 5 or more people, which is only 1% of the population. Gordon will revise the chart to remove the percentages since so many numbers gets confusing. We looked at Juli's chart (Ref 5) showing the same data and calling out the percentage information as notes. Larry raised the importance of recognizing what is important to the average resident – getting stuff out of their house. Our efforts to reduce tonnage (education, articles, Recycling Center) should help people solve that problem so that two barrels doesn't seem too hard. People still ask for blue bins and Larry suggests we explore promotions or discounts on different kinds of recycling cans or totes.

RECYCLE RIGHT: Gordon proposes we start doing two columns a month – 2nd and 4th Thursdays. Oct 13 is submitted – Juli wrote Beyond Curbside topic (delayed a week when the editor changed) explaining the options other than curbside. Oct 27 – Juli will revise Elephant in Your Trash Bin using silly examples of large animals to demonstrate the equivalent weights of 20,000 households putting the same recyclable item in the trash one week. Nov 10 – Gordon will write up an explanation of the 2nd pie chart and call of people to recycle more. Nov 24 – Pete will re-do his old article about how the recycling sorting facility works. Dec 8 – Charlotte can do a column on holiday preparations and coordinate it with any DPW information she needs to get out. Dec 22 – Juli will work on a New Year's Resolution column. In January Paul might be ready with information about what happens to recycled materials after they leave our sorting facility. Larry said that they wrote down some questions people asked at Town Day; we should check with Charlotte to see if we have topics for another Q/A column.

COMPOST PILOT: Larry and Rebecca followed up with the leads we had and 2 of them may be ready to sign up. The others haven't returned calls or emails and we assume they aren't really interested. We have one installed bin, but still need to get the signed agreement. Publicizing this on Facebook or the A-list would be helpful.

BUSINESS RECYCLING: A volunteer on the email list stepped up to do the data entry. Juli will send the spreadsheet to Pete to see if he can do a similar analysis to the one he did before and bring that to a future meeting so we can discuss the results and generate next steps.

SELECTMEN REPORT: Gordon said that he usually appears before the Board of Selectmen to get a formal declaration of Arlington Recycles Week. He will publicize the Recycling Center – both thanking the volunteers and inviting others to join us. CCD will only be in May. The best date will be Oct 31st and Gordon will get that on their agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Gordon thinks Special Town Meeting, Oct 19 is a good opportunity to announce the Nov 12 Recycling Center and whatever special items are being collected – we think sharps with the Board of Health.

Pete reported that he asked one of our Arlington State Reps, Dave Rogers, to look into whether the state could help Styrofoam vendors after Re-Foam-It went out of business. Dave provided a link to a chart showing towns that participate in the Recycling Dividend Program.

NEXT MEETING 11/3/16 – Most meetings 1st Thursday monthly at 7:30 PM in Town Hall Annex 1st Floor

Ref 1 Outline

Ref 2 Tonnage slides

Ref 3 Timeline

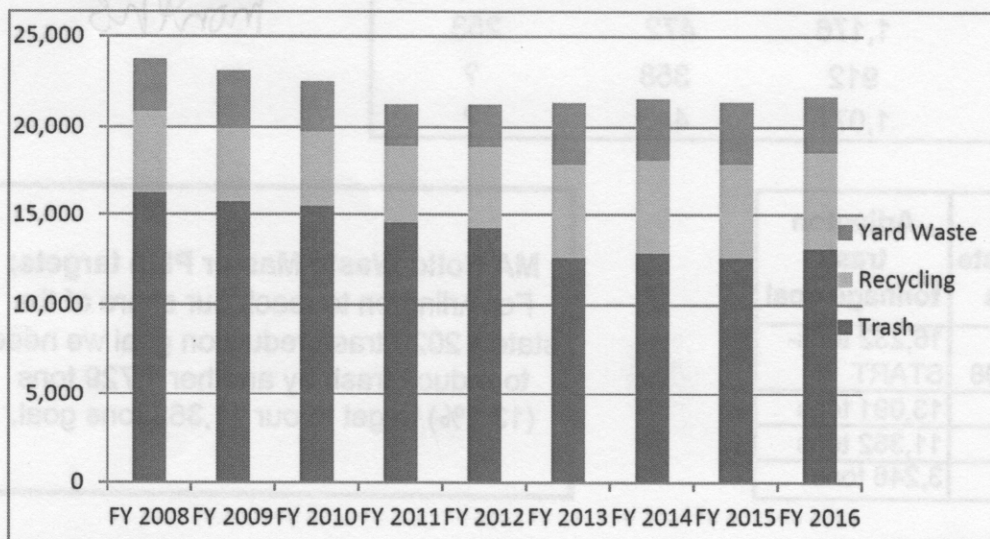
Ref 4 Two barrel projection

Ref 5 Summary of survey data

Ref 6 Coordinator's report

Arlington Municipal Solid Waste Tonnage by Waste Category

	Trash	Recycling	Yard Waste
FY 2008	16,232	4,639	2,881
FY 2009	15,740	4,165	3,216
FY 2010	15,493	4,244	2,799
FY 2011	14,538	4,395	2,332
FY 2012	14,248	4,652	2,381
FY 2013	12,603	5,278	3,503
FY 2014	12,846	5,271	3,488
FY 2015	12,603	5,297	3,506
FY 2016	13,091	5,451	3,189



ARC Expense Report			
Date	Item	Exp	Bal
7/1/2016	Start		3000
Compost Bin Share			
9/1/2016	Start		860
?	Larry set up	50	810

Municipal Solid Waste Monthly Totals			
Month	SW Tons	Rec Tons	YW Tons
September	1,215	427	248
October	1,137	454	295
November	1,151	466	1,097
December	1,129	576	152
January 2016	1,051	473	84
February	930	431	0
March	1,062	505	0
April	983	390	332
May	1,083	394	270
June	1,176	472	253
July	912	358	?
August	1,077	443	?

Massachusetts Municipal Solid Waste Master Plan Goals	Arlington trash tonnage goal
Baseline MSW - 2008	16,232 tons- START
in FY16 we are @	13,091 tons
(30%) by 2020	11,362 tons
(80%) by 2050	3,246 tons

MA Solid Waste Master Plan targets:
For Arlington to reach our share of the state's 2020 trash reduction goal we need to reduce trash by another 1,729 tons (13.2%) to get to our 11,362 tons goal.

Program Updates

Recycling Center upcoming events: Sat. Oct. 15, Nov. 19 and Dec. 10. No Community Collection Day this fall.

Messaging (outreach and education): ARC web page up to date. Recycling videos will be premiered soon, online and at a volunteer appreciation event in early November.

Compost programs: Food scrap drop off at Farmers Market winding down, I'm hoping for a drop off program at DPW but that's not in place yet. ARC's compost bin share program underway.

Schools: School Sustainability Coordinator hired, 15-20 hours/week for 18 months.

Part I

Ref 1

Recycle Right
Recycling Center
Composting/Biz Recycling

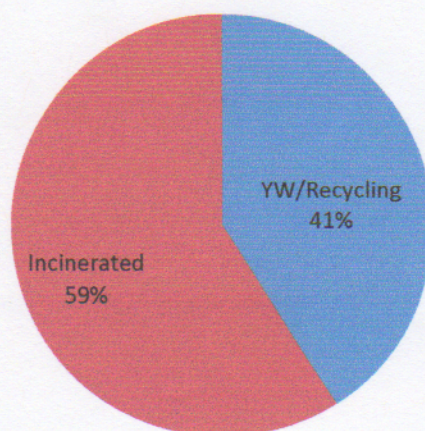
Discussion

Part II

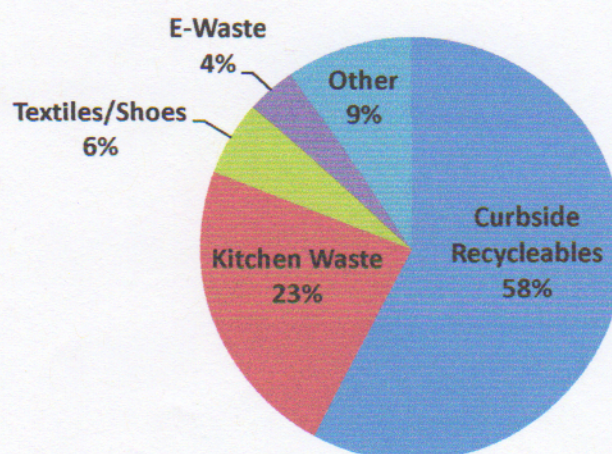
Timeline
Next Step > Two barrels
Tonnage slide > Total MSW
Tonnage slide > Incinerated recyclables
Household slide > Limited HH impact

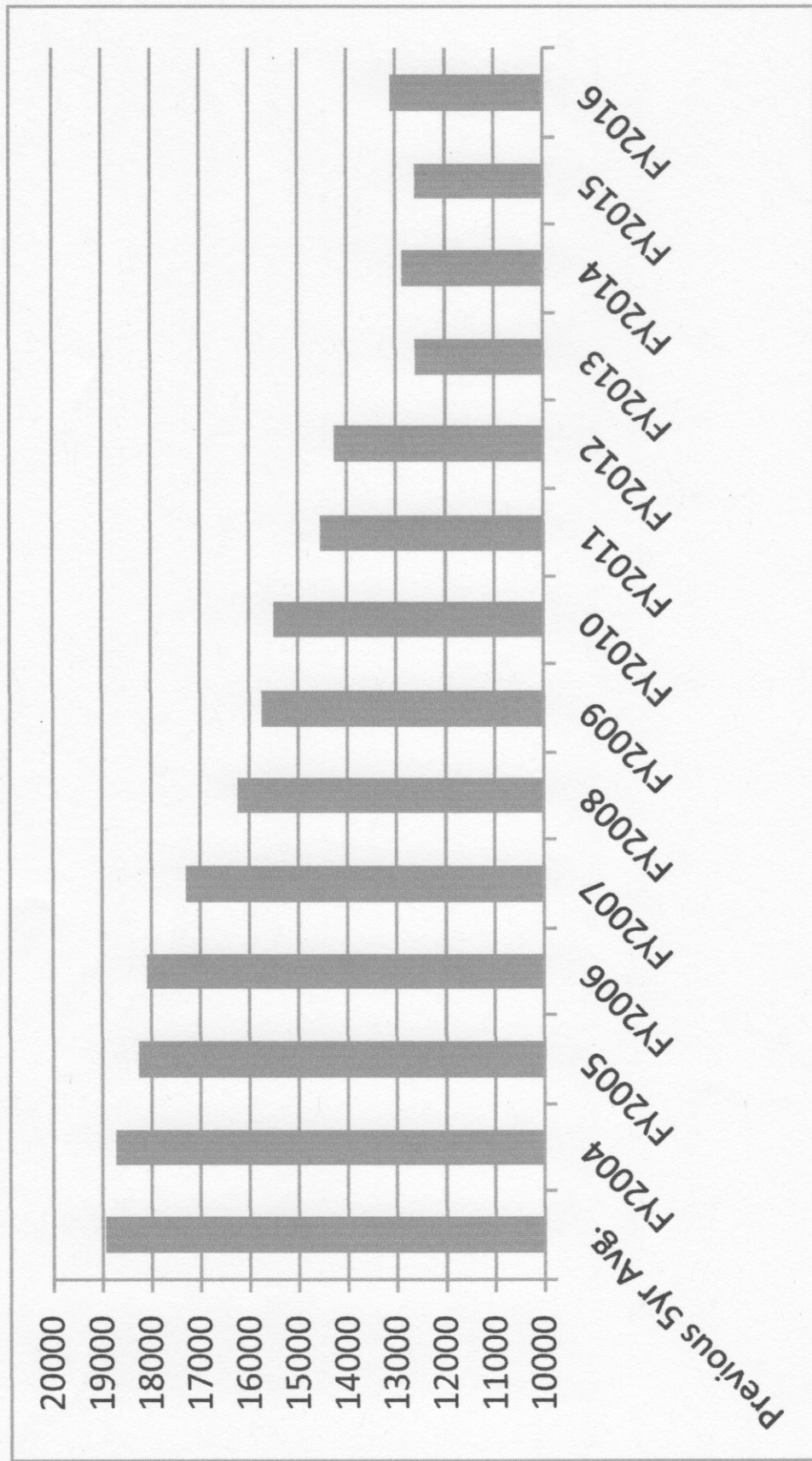
Discussion

Arlington - Annual Municipal Solid Waste
Total = 22,000 Tons



Incinerated Solid Waste Estimated Breakdown
13,000 Tons






Current

# People	# Barrels	1 to 2	(%)	> 2	(%)	Total	(%)
1 to 2	3105	93		231	7	3336	100
3 to 4	2038	93		155	7	2193	100
5 to 6	264	83		54	17	318	100
> 6	9	50		9	50	18	100
Overall (1 to 2)			92%		8%	Overall (>2)	n= 5865

Assuming that 100% of households of four or fewer can be educated/transited to two or less

# People	# Barrels	1 to 2	(%)	> 2	(%)	Total	(%)
1 to 2	3336	100				3336	100
3 to 4	2193	100				2193	100
5 to 6	264	83		54	17	318	100
> 6	9	50		9	50	18	100
Overall (1 to 2)			99%		1%	Overall (>2)	n= 5865

Ref 4

1 barrel 2 barrels 3 barrels

1-2 people	2494	611	231
3-4 people	1374	664	155
5-6 people	147	117	54
7+ people	2	7	9

92% of all households use 1 or 2 barrels

1% of all households have 5+ people and put out 3 barrels

about 6% of households have 5+ people

81% of large households (5+ people) use 1 or 2 barrels

Households surveyed: 5865

Ref 5